

Application Serial No. 10/780,152  
Amendment dated February 18, 2008  
Reply to Office Action dated November 21, 2007

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-20. (canceled)

Claim 21 (Currently amended): A process for providing a human or animal with at least two active substances, comprising:

providing a polysaccharide in the form of a plurality of granular particles, including a first active substance incorporated into a first granular particle and a second active substance incorporated into a second granular particle, wherein the first and second granular particles are functionally separated from one another and the active substances thereof do not mix or interact with one another; and

introducing the polysaccharide into a metabolism of a human or animal, in which the active substances are released in a delayed release fashion into blood of the human or animal and the polysaccharide and active ingredients embedded therein are adapted to one or more specific needs of the human or animal.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide comprises at least one polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of galactomannans and glucomannans.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein the active substances are selected from the group consisting of vitamins, minerals, trace elements, plant ingredients, amino acids, enzymes, and coenzymes.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein said providing step comprises:

contacting the active substance with water;  
mixing with the polysaccharide to form a gel;  
gently drying the gel to form a cake;  
comminuting the cake to form granular particles; and  
sieving the granular particles to a desired particle size.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): The process of Claim 21, wherein the granular particles each comprise a plurality of polysaccharide molecules forming a lattice structure having interstices, and the active substances are bound within the interstices of the lattice structure by ~~coordinate~~ bonds.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The process of Claim 25, wherein in said introducing step, the polysaccharide molecules move with respect to one another upon penetration of fluid into the interstices of the lattice structure.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): The process of Claim 26, wherein in said introducing step, portions of the lattice structure are removed layer by layer upon penetration of fluid into the interstices of the lattice structure thereby resulting in a gradual release of the active substances.

Claim 28 (Previously presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide molecules are surrounded by an H<sub>2</sub>O envelope.

Claim 29 (Previously presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein said providing step further comprises:

providing a polysaccharide;  
incorporating a solution containing the first active substance into the polysaccharide until the first active substance has been fully incorporated; and  
incorporating a solution containing the second active substance into the polysaccharide.

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Claim 30 (New): The process of claim 21, wherein concentrations of the active substances in the blood of the human or animal do not exceed physiological levels.

Claim 31 (New): The process of claim 21, wherein the delayed release of the active substances provides a sustained supply and increased bio-availability of the active substances.

Claim 32 (New): The process of claim 21, wherein the delayed release of the active substances avoids a premature antagonism between the first and second active substance.

Claim 33 (New): The process of claim 24, wherein the size of the desired particle is 0.2-2.0 mm.